

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY TEXT REC'D FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY S/S:LCJOHNSTONE

EUR:LBLAINGEN

S/NM:DERNST

WH:COL MACFARLANE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 181662

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO CONGRESSMAN RANGEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THERE FOLLOWS THE CORRECTED TEXT
OF A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO CONGRESSMAN RANGEL
WHICH WAS DELIVERED TODAY.

QUOTE:
JULY 31, 1975

DEAR CHARLEY:

IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT MANY OF THE VOTES AGAINST
THE BILL TO LIFT THE EMBARGO ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO
TURKEY WERE BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE POLICIES
OF MY ADMINISTRATION REGARDING THE THREAT TO THIS COUNTRY
POSED BY FOREIGN PRODUCERS AND EXPORTERS OF OPIUM.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I HAVE HAD A THOROUGH CONVERSATION
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ON THE OPIUM SITUATION WITH PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL OF

TURKEY EARLIER THIS WEEK. I EXPLAINED TO HIM THE HIGH PRIORITY WHICH I PLACE ON THIS PROBLEM. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE PLEASED AS I WAS TO HEAR HOW STRONGLY THE PRIME MINISTER BELIEVES IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE CONTROLS ON THE PRODUCTION OF OPIUM POPPIES.

I ALSO WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT MY CONCERN IN TURKEY IS THE SAME AS MY CONCERN IN EVERY NATION IN WHICH OPIUM POPPIES ARE GROWN. ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD -- FRIEND AND ADVERSARY ALIKE -- MUST UNDERSTAND THAT AMERICA CONSIDERS THE ILLICIT EXPORT OF OPIUM TO THIS COUNTRY A THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY. SECRETARY KISSINGER AND I INTEND TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY DO.

AS I MENTIONED TO YOU ON THE PHONE FROM HELSINKI THIS MORNING, I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS FURTHER WITH YOU AND THE CONGRESS UPON MY RETURN.

SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD.

THE HONORABLE CHARLES B. RANGLE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON, D.C. UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: MASS, MARR, TU, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (RANGEL, CHARLES B)
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
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